

Chronic Brain Injury Program

Request for Pilot Award Proposals



The Chronic Brain Injury (CBI) Pilot Award Program supports innovative projects and interdisciplinary collaborations to foster outstanding basic, clinical, and translational research on chronic brain injury topics. CBI awards teams of investigators to develop pilot data and establish collaborations in pursuit of high-impact, extramurally-funded research projects or programs, and collaborative publications. Successful applications will show a strong probability of securing extramural funding, increasing collaborative publication quality, and increasing national reputation for Ohio State's research and clinical care.

Project Types

Applicants may propose one of two types of projects:

- A research pilot is considered a standard one-year collaborative research study that will generate data leading to successful capture of individual or team extramural grants. Up to \$50,000 will be awarded per proposal, with up to five awards available.
- A clinical trial pilot is considered a two-year preliminary observational or interventional clinical trial that will generate pilot data and demonstrate feasible enrollment of human subjects. Up to \$100,000 will be awarded to one proposal. NOTE: clinical trial pilots are only available during Spring semester application cycles.

Proposed projects are not eligible for consideration in both categories (i.e. a clinical trial pilot will not also be considered for a research pilot).

Requirements for Eligibility

Scope: All applicants must propose research studies that address chronic brain injury topics within one or more of CBI's key research domains (see Figures 1 & 2). Research pilot proposals may include any relevant topics.

Clinical trial pilots must specifically address clinically relevant gaps in neurotrauma and/or neurodegenerative disease care. Clinical trial pilots are encouraged to propose projects that develop new diagnostic methods, re-purpose FDA-approved drugs, leverage technology for improved communication and access, or address fragmentation of health care service delivery.

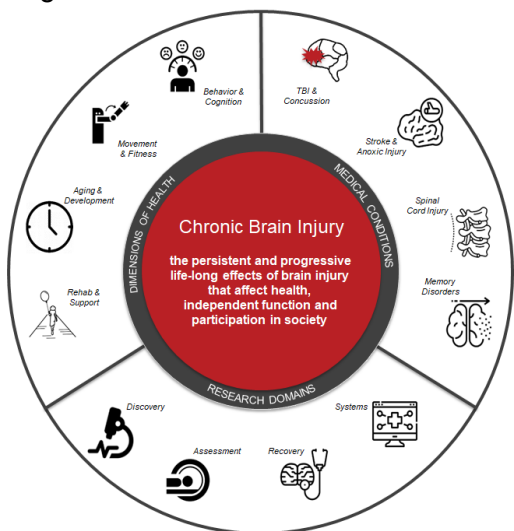


Figure 1: Chronic Brain Injury Program topics.

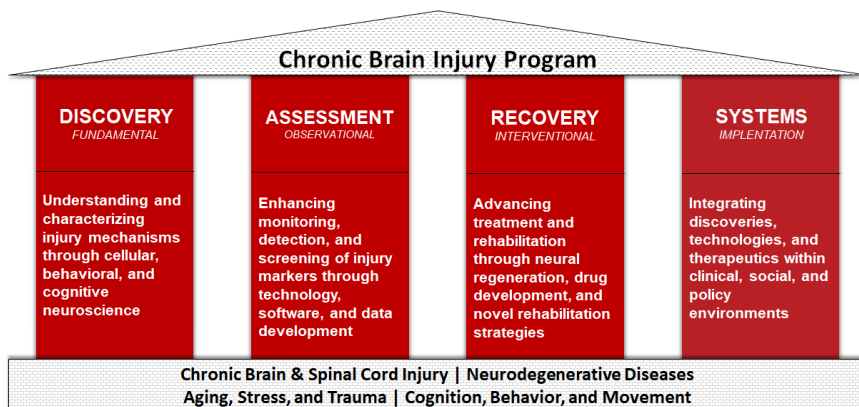


Figure 2: Chronic Brain Injury Program key research domains.

Applicants: All proposals must feature an interdisciplinary team of faculty researchers and/or clinicians. Applicant teams must be led by a faculty member with a current appointment at The Ohio State University. Each project type has specific requirements for applicant teams:

- Research pilots: All Ohio State faculty are eligible to apply. Applicant teams must feature one of the following types of collaborations:
 - cross-disciplinary collaboration featuring at least two Ohio State colleges, or
 - translational collaboration between basic and clinical scientists, or
 - transdisciplinary collaboration involving an external industry or community organization.
- Clinical trial pilots: Applicant teams must feature at least one principal investigator who is a current CBI Faculty Affiliate. Applicant teams must also:
 - include at least one faculty-level clinician, and
 - represent two or more University departments

Additional consideration will be given to applicant teams featuring junior faculty. Nationwide Children's Hospital faculty are considered as representing a college separate from the Ohio State College of Medicine. Department Chairs and Center/Institute Directors may apply as principal investigators.

Matching Funds: Applicants must provide matching funds of at least \$25,000 from internal or external sources. Matching funds may be cash, in-kind contributions, or a mix of both. If using grant funds from other projects to support matching funds, the application must specifically state how the proposal represents a new and distinct project.

Funding

Awards represent one-time support for the project. Research pilots are one-year awards; clinical pilots are two-year awards. No-cost extensions may be granted with approval by program staff. Approved funding may be re-allocated or returned for projects that fail to submit required documents or reports in a timely manner. Please note that salaries and travel for tenure-track faculty may not be supported by these funds.

Applicants may apply for up to \$50,000 to support a research pilot. Funds will be transferred to research pilot team at the start of the one-year project period upon confirmation of all required regulatory approvals.

Up to \$100,000 is available for clinical trial pilots each academic year. Clinical trial pilots applications may be submitted only during the Spring application cycle. Clinical trial pilot funds will be granted in 3 installments: Up to \$10,000 provided at the start of the two-year project period; half of the remaining approved funding will be provided upon Institutional Review Board approval for the study; the remaining approved funding will be available at the start of the second year following an approved progress report.

Requirements for Funded Projects

By accepting a CBI Pilot Award, the applicants agree to the following requirements:

- CBI support must be acknowledged in all materials, presentations or publications arising from this work.
- Required reports will be submitted by deadlines indicated in the notice of award.
- CBI must be listed on Ohio State ePA-005 forms (at 0% award and 0% expenditure credit) for any extramural proposals arising from this work.
- Extramural funding applications advancing this work AND manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication in scholarly journals arising from this work will be submitted within one year after project end.
- Project teams must present their project within one year of project end at a CBI-sponsored event.

Application Instructions

STEP 1: Submit a Letter of Intent

All applicant teams must submit a letter of intent (LOI) form (<https://go.osu.edu/cbipilotloi>) that briefly describes the project, estimated budget, research strategy (see step 2), and team qualifications. LOIs will be reviewed by the CBI program team to ensure that project proposals meet all requirements and fit the scope of this program. LOIs may be returned with suggestions for revision and resubmission. **LOIs must be approved prior to full proposal submission.** For questions about LOIs, please contact the program staff.

STEP 2: Submit a Full Application

After LOI approval, teams must submit a full proposal in PDF form to cbi@osu.edu. Application forms are available at <https://discovery.osu.edu/cbi-funding-resources>. Applications must include:

- A completed application form including cover page and detailed budget
- A proposal narrative, limited to five pages excluding references, that clearly describes each component of the **project research strategy**:
 - **Project Aims:** *What will this project accomplish? What milestones are important in the development of this project?*
 - **Significance:** *What challenge or need will this project address? How?*
 - *FOR CLINICAL TRIALS: Specifically describe the clinically relevant gap(s) in care this project will address.*
 - **Innovation:** *What new ideas or approaches does this project explore?*
 - **Methodology:** *What specific procedures and techniques will be used to accomplish the project?*
 - *FOR CLINICAL TRIALS: Describe also the recruitment and enrollment strategy, including any specific strategies and tactics to include underrepresented populations.*
 - **Multidisciplinary Approach:** *What role does each project team member play? How does this project meaningfully incorporate multiple disciplines?*
 - **Next Steps:** *How will this project lead to collaborative extramural proposals within two years? What current or expected grant announcements will the project team pursue?*

Review

Completed applications will be reviewed using a truncated NIH-style review process. Research pilot applications and clinical trial pilot applications will be peer-reviewed and scored by at least two reviewers selected from the CBI faculty affiliate base based on expertise. The CBI program team will use reviewers' scores and comments to rank and select projects for funding. Scores and reviewer comments will be shared with applicants.

Important Dates

April 19, 2024 @ 11:59PM

Letters of Intent Due

May 15, 2024 @ 11:59PM

Applications Due

Questions?

Email: cbi@osu.edu

For more details: go.osu.edu/cbifunding